

Appln. Serial No. 09/773,034
Amendment Dated January 15, 2009
Reply to Office Action Mailed October 15, 2008

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Replacement sheets containing Figs. 6-10 are enclosed herewith. The replacement sheets are the formal drawings of the proposed drawings filed on June 24, 2002. No substantive changes have been made with respect to the proposed drawings filed on June 24, 2002.

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REMARKS

Claims 5-8, 14-16, 19-20, 22, 27, 30-33, and 45-46 are pending.

Claims 1-4, 9-13, 17-18, 21, 23-26, 28-29, and 34-44 have been cancelled.

In the Office Action dated October 15, 2008, the specification was objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter; and new drawings were required. Claims 15 and 32 were objected to because of informalities; claim 30 was rejected as being indefinite under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2; claims 32 and 33 were rejected as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Quintana (U.S. Patent No. 6,312,091) in view of Garcia (U.S. Patent No. 6,042,216). Claims 15, 16, and 30 were noted as allowable and claims 5-8, 14, 19, 20, 22, 27, 31, 45, and 46 were allowed.

OBJECTIONS TO THE SPECIFICATION AND CLAIMS

Claims 15 and 32 were objected to, and the specification was also objected to, in view of the use of the term "transverse" in claims 15 and 32. As suggested by the Office Action, "transverse" has been replaced with "perpendicular" to address these objections.

Withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested.

DRAWING OBJECTION

Replacement sheets containing the formal drawings for Figs. 6-10 are enclosed herewith to address the objection to the drawings. Therefore, withdrawal of the drawing objection is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2

Claim 30 has been amended to address the § 112, ¶ 2, rejection.

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DISQUALIFICATION OF QUINTANA (U.S. PATENT NO. 6,312,091) AS A PRIOR ART
REFERENCE PURSUANT TO UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(c)

The present application and Quintana (U.S. Patent No. 6,312,091) were, at the time the present invention was made, owned by or subject to obligation of assignment to the same person (Hewlett-Packard).

The publication date of Quintana is November 6, 2001, which is after the filing date of the present application. Therefore, in view of the common ownership of the present application and Quintana, Quintana has been disqualified as prior art pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 103(c).


Therefore, withdrawal of the § 103 rejection of claims 32 and 33 is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, all claims are in condition for allowance. The Office Action had indicated that claims 5-8, 14, 19, 20, 22, 27, 31, 45, and 46 are allowed. The Office Action also indicated that claims 15 and 16 would be allowable if the objections set forth in the Office Action were addressed. Claim 30 was also indicated as allowable if the § 112, ¶ 2, rejection was overcome. Applicant has addressed the objection and rejections, and therefore, all claims are in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees and/or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-2025 (60990043-1).

Respectfully submitted,

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